



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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March 21, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bruce A. Chernof, M.D.
Acting Director and Chief Medical Officer Health Services

David Sanders, PhD
Director of Children and Family Services

Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF MEDICAL HUB CLINICS AT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS) FACILITIES

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*To improve health
through leadership,
service and education*

On March 7, 2006, your Board requested a status report regarding the implementation of Medical Hub Clinics at DHS Facilities. Presently, DHS performs mental health screening and forensic exams of children who have been newly detained by DCFS and have suspected physical and sexual abuse cases at LAC+USC Medical Center (LAC+USC), Harbor-UCLA Medical Center (H/UCLA), King/Drew Medical Center (K/DMC), Olive View-UCLA Medical Center (OV/UCLA), and High Desert Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center (HDHS). LAC+USC and K/DMC also provide the initial medical assessment of children detained in the child welfare system.

In order to geographically expand the capability to provide the initial medical assessments for newly detained children at H/UCLA, OV/UCLA, and HDHS, and expand the capacity at K/DMC, DHS has estimated a one-time start-up cost in the amount of \$0.6 million and a one-time staffing cost of \$0.6 million for a total one-time start-up cost of \$1.2 million. DHS and DCFS are finalizing the projected costs and will provide your Board with a comprehensive budget breakdown in a Board letter which will be filed with the Request for Appropriation Adjustment to fund the Start-Up costs of Hub Clinics for the April 18, 2006 Board Meeting.

The one-time start-up funding will be utilized to support the purchase of equipment and supplies and renovations (e.g., trailer purchase, painting, etc.). The one-time staffing payment will be used to support the equivalent of three months of staffing costs for 46.5 positions necessary to perform operational activities to ready the facilities and initiate service. These funds will offset operational start-up costs while the facilities are getting to full capacity and thus, able to generate revenue to offset operating costs.

The estimated annual on-going DHS operating cost of providing the initial medical assessment is \$4,437,811. This assumes a workload of approximately 10,000 cases of newly detained children per year (based on annualizing DCFS' data from January 2005 through November 2005). Utilizing LAC+USC's experience with detained children for the time period July 2004 through November 2005, 96.3% of the children have Medi-Cal coverage. When this percentage is applied to the cost of \$4,437,811, DHS would receive \$4,273,612 in Cost Based Reimbursement Clinic (CBRC) revenue and would incur an unreimbursed cost in the amount of \$164,199. DCFS has agreed to reimburse DHS based on CBRC for this shortfall. DHS and DCFS will review actual operating costs and revenue on an annual



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basis and will work with the Chief Administrative Office to address any shortfalls.

DHS worked closely with H/UCLA, OV/UCLA, and HDHS in developing plans and timelines for providing the initial medical assessment to newly detained (e.g., Medi-Cal eligible) children referred to the Medical Hub Clinics by DCFS. Pending Board approval, the three facilities will provide initial medical assessments in incremental phases. (Attachment A).

H/UCLA will start providing the initial medical assessment to 50% of the estimated caseload (50-60 cases per month) by hiring 50% of the requested staff by July 2006. In the long term, H/UCLA needs a modular trailer to operate this program in order to accommodate 100% of the estimated caseload (119 cases per month). The anticipated completion of this phase is January 2007.

OV/UCLA will start providing initial medical assessments to 50% of the estimated caseload (48 cases per month) by hiring 50% of the requested staff by July 2006. OV/UCLA also requires a medical trailer or other space to house this program and anticipates this to be completed in April 2007. OV/UCLA's estimated caseload is 96 cases per month.

HDHS currently provides forensic exams on Mondays and Fridays. Expansion of services will begin in July 2006 by hiring one nurse practitioner and a licensed vocational nurse to provide the initial medical assessments on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to 60% of the estimated caseload (29 cases per month). In order to accommodate 100% of the estimated caseload (48 cases per month) HDHS needs renovation to add one clinic space. This is anticipated to be completed in October 2006.

Please contact anyone of us if you have any questions or need additional information.

BAC:DS:MJS:rt

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

ATTACHMENT A

HUB CLINIC IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES: INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Phase-In				100% caseload			
	Implementation Date	Staff Required	Space Required	Implementation Date	Staff Required	Space Required	100% caseload per month
H/UCLA	July 2006 for 50% of volume (50-60 patients per month)	5 positions (50% of requested positions)	N/A	January 2007	5 positions (remaining 50% of requested positions)	Modular building	119 patients
K/DMC	N/A	N/A	N/A	March 2006	6 positions 3 currently filled 3 need to be filled	N/A	176 patients
LAC+USC	N/A	N/A	N/A	March 2006	12 positions 6 currently filled 6 need to be filled	N/A	398 patients
OV/UCLA	July 2006 50 % of volume (48 patients per month)	4 positions 50% of requested positions to accommodate additional clinic appointment slots Monday through Friday	N/A	April 2007	4.5 positions (remaining 50% of requested positions)	Medical Trailer	96 patients
HDHS	July 2006 for 60% of volume (29 patients per month)	2 positions (Nurse Practitioner and LVN) for Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays	N/A	October 2006	8 positions (remaining 80% of requested positions)	Renovate to add 1 clinic space	48 patients